

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ARA-06 ACDA-05 MC-02 /088 W

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R 181030Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7198

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 2079

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CU, UR

SUBJ: CUBAN TROOPS REPORTED IN CABINDA

1. POINTE NOIRE-BASED FRENCH BUSINESSMAN WITH REGULAR ACCESS TO PORT HAS REPORTED ARRIVAL THERE IN COURSE PAST WEEK OF FRESH CUBAN FORCES. SOURCE ESTIMATES APPROXIMATELY 3,000 TROOPS DISEMBARKED DURING THIS PERIOD, AND ADDS THAT HE PERSONALLY COUNTED 55 TANKS AND SAW ADDITIONAL LIGHT ARMORED AND SUPPORT VEHICLES. CUBAN UNIT WAS IDENTIFIED LOCALLY AS "THIRD ARMORED DIVISION" AND MOVE OVERLAND INTO CABINDA SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL.

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, MUCH OF CABINDA CIVILIAN POPULATION IS BELIEVED TO HAVE LEFT ENCLAVE AND TAKEN REFUGE IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. THUS, CABINDA NOW BELIEVED TO BE FULLY IN HANDS OF CUBAN FORCE.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY UNABLE EVALUATE ACCURACY OF THIS REPORT, WHICH WE RECEIVED SECONDHAND. HOWEVER, SOURCE IDENTIFIED TO US AS COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE BUSINESSMAN
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WITH LONG EXPERIENCE IN POINTE NOIRE. HE IS CONSIDERED

TO BE RELIABLE AND LEVELHEADED OBSERVER.STEIGMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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